
U.S. Department of the Interior • U.S. Geological Survey

MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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LIME IN DECEMBER 1996

Lime producers, operating 108 plants, sold or used about 1.57 million metric tons in December, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. This was essentially unchanged from the monthly average for the last 12 months. Lime sold by producers was about 1.38 million tons; this was 2% below the monthly average for the last 12 months. Captive lime used by 36 producers was about 189,000 tons, or 12% above the monthly average for the last 12 months.

Lime sold in December for construction uses, including soil stabilization, totaled about 103,000 tons. Sales of refractory dead-burned dolomite were about 11,700 tons. Sales of lime for

environmental uses totaled about 423,000 tons. Sales to steel-or-iron-related markets were about 407,000 tons, and sales for other chemical and industrial uses totaled about 439,000 tons.

Principal lime-producing States in December 1996, in descending order, were Alabama, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Virginia. These States accounted for 40% of the total output. Kentucky, Illinois, and Missouri were also significant producers, but specific figures were withheld to protect company proprietary data. November exports to five countries were 2,616 tons.

NOTICE

This is the last issue of the monthly Lime Mineral Industry Surveys to be published by the U.S. Geological Survey. Publication of lime data will continue in the form of the annual Lime Mineral Industry Surveys and in the annual Mineral Commodity Summaries.

TABLE 1
LIME SOLD BY PRODUCERS IN THE UNITED STATES, BY USE 1/

(Metric tons unless otherwise noted) 2/

Use	December 1996	November 1996	12 Months 1996 3/	12 Months 1995
Quicklime:				
Construction:				
Soil stabilization	37,200	66,200 r/	516,000	376,000
General construction	6,340	9,500 r/	143,000	92,400
Total	43,500	75,700 r/	659,000	468,000
Refractory dolomite	11,700	10,500	159,000	173,000
Environmental	356,000	342,000 r/	4,270,000	3,660,000
Steel, iron related	406,000	396,000 r/	4,730,000	4,620,000
Other chemical and industrial	388,000	377,000	4,840,000	5,040,000
Total quicklime	1,210,000	1,200,000 r/	14,700,000	14,000,000
Hydrate:				
Construction:				
Soil stabilization	24,500	23,800	378,000	480,000
General construction	35,200	37,000 r/	538,000	537,000
Total	59,700	60,800 r/	917,000	1,020,000
Environmental	67,300	66,100 r/	826,000	762,000
Steel, iron related	971	971 r/	11,300	33,100
Other chemical and industrial	51,100	50,500 r/	545,000	559,000
Total hydrate	179,000	178,000 r/	2,300,000	2,370,000
Total construction sales	103,000	136,000 r/	1,580,000	1,490,000
Total refractory sales	11,700	10,500	159,000	173,000
Total environmental sales	423,000	408,000 r/	5,090,000	4,420,000
Total steel, iron related sales	407,000	397,000 r/	4,740,000	4,650,000
Total chemical and industrial sales	439,000	427,000 r/	5,390,000	5,600,000
Total sales of lime	1,380,000	1,380,000 r/	17,000,000	16,300,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

3/ May include revisions to prior months' data.

TABLE 2
CAPTIVE LIME USED BY PRODUCERS IN THE UNITED STATES, BY TYPE 1/

(Metric tons unless otherwise noted) 2/

Use	December 1996	November 1996	12 Months 1996 3/	12 Months 1995
Quicklime 4/	174,000	194,000 r/	1,840,000	2,020,000
Hydrate	4,200	3,160 r/	36,300	44,800
Refractory dolomite	10,200	10,600	129,000	142,000
Total	189,000	208,000 r/	2,000,000	2,210,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

3/ May include revisions to prior months' data.

4/ Excludes refractory dolomite.

TABLE 3
LIME IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION IN NOVEMBER 1/ 2/

(Metric tons) 3/

Country of origin	Quicklime	Hydrate	Hydraulic	Total	Year to date
Canada	12,000	1,940	5,080	19,000	199,000
Mexico	--	259	141	400	45,000
Other	9	3	--	12	108
Total	12,000	2,200	5,220	19,400	244,000

1/ Trade statistics are reported for the month previous to that of domestic statistics because of a Department of Commerce effort to improve accuracy by providing an additional 14 days handling.

2/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 4
LIME SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS IN THE UNITED STATES, BY STATE 1/

(Metric tons) 2/

State or territory	December 1996	November 1996	12 Months 1996 3/	12 Months 1995
Alabama	157,000	150,000	1,790,000	1,730,000
Idaho, Oregon, and Washington	57,400	61,200 r/	676,000	706,000
Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa	136,000	125,000 r/	1,570,000	1,840,000
Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia	209,000	208,000	2,510,000	2,410,000
Michigan	58,600	59,100 r/	607,000	656,000
Ohio	149,000	190,000 r/	2,050,000	1,930,000
Pennsylvania	133,000	123,000	1,540,000	1,590,000
Texas	111,000	116,000	1,390,000	1,410,000
Virginia	71,500	65,900	766,000	731,000
Wisconsin	48,700	39,200 r/	551,000	568,000
Other 4/	442,000	450,000 r/	5,550,000	4,970,000
Total	1,570,000	1,590,000	19,000,000	18,500,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

3/ May include revisions to prior months' data.

4/ Includes Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

TABLE 5
LIME IN THE UNITED STATES 1/ 2/

(Thousand metric tons) 3/

Period	Consumption 4/	Sold or used	Imports 5/	Exports5/
1995:				
December	1,590	1,570	18	4
1996:				
January	1,600	1,580	28	4
February	1,520	1,510	21	4
March	1,570	1,560	18	9
April	1,590	1,570	15	3
May	1,600	1,590	17	5
June	1,630	1,610	19	4
July	1,620	1,600	24	4
August	1,600	1,580	28	4
September	1,610	1,580	30	5
October	1,650	1,630	23	4
November	1,600	1,590	19	3
December	NA	1,570	NA	NA

NA Not available.

1/ Inventories may be estimated as 60% of monthly consumption.

2/ Data are rounded to three significant digits.

3/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

4/ Consumption includes sold or used plus imports minus exports, and includes Puerto Rico.

5/ Source: Bureau of the Census.